

ART-UNION OF GLASGOW.—At the annual meeting held on Friday last, the Lord Provost in the chair in place of the Duke of Hamilton who was unable to attend, the report was read, from which it appears that the income for the past year was 1,581*l.* odds, of which 731*l.* had been expended in the purchase of works of art. The committee proposed for the next year, as an encouragement to art, to offer a premium of 50*l.* for the best original historical or landscape painting.

THE RHINE BRIDGE AT COLOGNE.—The Prussian Minister of Trade and Public Works has issued a public notice, inviting engineers of all nations to send in plans of a fixed bridge, at Cologne, to unite the lines of railway between Belgium and France with the great German line to Vienna. The river from bank to bank, 1,375 feet wide, must be crossed by a bridge leaving three openings; the piers to occupy in all not more than 75 feet, and so firmly built as to stand the pressure of ice on the break-up of great frosts. Locomotives will not pass, nor unbroken trains. The cost is not to exceed 1,500,000 thalers. The best plan will receive a prize of 250 fredericks d'or; the second best, 125*l.* The plans must be sent in by August next.

LEINSTER GRAND JURY & IRISH BOARD OF WORKS.—In a case of alleged extravagance on the part of the Board of Works in Ireland, in their expenditure of a sum of 904*l.* odds, on the building and repairing of bridges, a jury was empanelled, and the evidence of Mr. Crawford, the county surveyor, taken on the part of the grand jury. Among the items were 267*l.* odds, for a new bridge at Ballyfinboy, which the surveyor said was no better than others in the county, built for 7*l.* a foot, making the amount in all 140*l.* Another item was 293*l.* odds, for a bridge of 25 feet span of arch at Ballyhooney, which the surveyor stated that respectable contractors would be found to construct for 175*l.* Mr. M. Farrell, the Board's inspector, supported the charges made; but the jury decided, on Mr. Crawford's evidence, to reduce the amount to 529*l.* in all, inclusive of interest on money borrowed.

ECCLESIOLOGICAL LATE CAMBRIDGE CAMDEN SOCIETY.—A committee meeting was held on the 9th; the President in the chair. Amongst other matters, Mr. Carpenter attended and consulted the committee on the restoration of the round church of Little Maplestead, the drawings of which he exhibited. It was agreed to issue notices, appointing the anniversary meeting for 1850, on Thursday, May 16, at two o'clock p.m., in the school-room of Christ Church, St. Pancras, in Albany-street, Regent's-park. A letter was read from the Rev. Dr. Garstin, of Galle, in Ceylon, asking for advice as to a church intended to be built at that place. An account was received of a satisfactory restoration at Morley church in Derbyshire; but the committee were unable to make a grant in its aid. The controversy in THE BUILDER, between Mr. Pugin, Mr. Fergusson, and others, and the suggested removal of the railing round the western area before St. Paul's, were discussed.

SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting of this society was held on Wednesday in last week, at Bridgewater. The chair was taken by Lord Cavan, and after a few preliminary introductory remarks, Mr. William Stradling, of Chilton Polden, read a paper on the antiquities discovered from time to time in the great, large tracts of which surrounded this neighbourhood. The Rev. Mr. Wall read a paper on "Ancient Church Architecture," and Mr. Charles Giles, one of the honorary secretaries, followed with a short dissertation on the same subject, including a description of Bawdrip Church. The members afterwards visited Bridgewater parish church, now undergoing restoration under Mr. W. Breakpear, architect.

DWELLINGS FOR THE POOR IN FRANCE.—An application has been made to the Society for Improving the Condition of the Labouring Classes by Messrs. Gide and Baudry, the publishers, of Paris, for permission to use the illustrative engravings which accompany the Essay, just published by the society, "On the Dwellings of the Labouring Classes," by Mr. Roberts. The fact is interesting, as showing that this subject now engages public attention in France.

PROPOSED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 26th April, for the erection of a villa residence at East Moulsey; by 9th May, for the erection of a training and middle school at Saltley, near Birmingham; by 30th inst., for a supply of baths to complete the St. Marylebone public establishment; by 2nd May, for renewing a river wall at Tilbury Fort; by a date not specified, for the erection of about 60 rods of best rent oak park paling near London; by 30th inst., for various works connected with the building trades for the Ordnance, as advertised; by 30th inst., for the supply of paving, granite, flint, Kentish rag, and gravel; by 23rd inst., for the erection of offices and a board-room, &c., for the Consumers' Protective Gas Company at Woolwich; by 30th inst., for the erection of a rectory-house, with offices, &c., at Blendworth, Hampshire; by 2nd May, for altering a house at Hulton, near Saint Ives, also for altering and rebuilding at a farm-house there, and for new stabling and offices to a house in same vicinity; by 30th inst., for laying down York paving-granite curb and granite channelling, and supplying broken granite, rag, &c., for St. Pancras parish; by 27th inst., for removing an engine-shed and water-tank from Richmond to Twickenham station of the London and South-Western Railway; by a date not specified, for building school and class-rooms at the Royal Naval School, Newcross, Devon; by 16th May, for making, fixing, &c., a steam-engine, with engineer's house and coal-yard, &c., (as advertised), for the Hollow District Commissioners, Ramsey; by 1st May, for works at sea defences of Southsea Castle, Portsmouth (Ordnance); by 25th inst., for erecting a villa near Keighley; by 22nd inst., for the erection of a school, &c., at King's Norton Union Workhouse; by 22nd for erecting a school at Carlisle; by 26th, for the excavation and formation of a stone reservoir at Barrow, for the Bristol Waterworks Company; by 1st May, for the erection of a building on the Walworth Villa estate, Walworth Common, for the infant poor of St. Mary, Newington, Surrey; by 25th inst., for ironwork for new gaol at Walton, Liverpool; and by 24th, for a new set of oil lamps (with appropriate designs) for the hall of the Middle Temple; also by a date not specified, for supplying Copenhagen, Denmark, with water, gas, and sewers, with plans for same.

COMPETITION.—Plans for a proper supply of water for Aylesbury are wanted by the local Board of Health: premium 20*l.*, as advertised.

CHURCH GALLERIES.—The peculiarity of the Gothic style, as distinguished from the classical, appears to be the facility with which it accommodates itself to the requirements of different times and different sections of the church. Keeping this in mind, I would ask any sensible man whether the exclusion of galleries in places of worship (where any pretension to architectural propriety is made) is not in opposition to the genuine spirit of the Gothic style? Why will not the architect rescue the gallery from the hand of the carpenter? It must be built, where convenience is not unduly sacrificed to appearance, and why might it not be made ornamental (as well as more convenient) by springing from the wall supported by spandrels, and by being just of a size to do without pillars? Galleries at present are not only great eyesores, but by being built too large, and by inclining the wrong way to the wall, are great obstacles to proper ventilation.—E. J. C.

BRICK DUTIES BILL.—We understand that, through representation to Sir John Jervis, from Chester, a clause will be introduced into the Brick Duties Exemption Bill, so that brick-makers who have taken contracts for making bricks previous to the duty being taken off, will have to deduct the amount of duty from their contracts.

PUBLIC WATER CORNERS.—The surveyor of the city sewers has published a report on the public urinals in the city. There are seventy-four there, it appears. This report should have the useful effect of drawing attention to a subject of great importance, which has little chance of public advocacy because of its nature.

LIGHTING EAST-INDIA-ROAD, POPLAR.—Correspondents complain bitterly of the state of darkness in which this road is kept.

NATIONAL GALLERY.—In answer to a question put by Mr. Hume, in the Commons, Lord John Russell has announced, definitively, that "the Royal Academicians would be obliged to find suitable accommodation for themselves out of the National Gallery, and the Vernon pictures would ultimately be placed in that building."

MR. PATRIC PARK has nearly completed the model of a national group, consisting of a colossal statue of Wallace, the left hand holding the mane of the lion of Scotland crouching at his feet, but ready to rush forth at his command, and the right leaning on his historic sword, the terror of his country's oppressors. It is intended to be erected in Edinburgh as a public monument.

INAUGURATION OF BELFAST SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—On 10th instant, a very numerous and influential meeting was held at the School of Design, at Belfast, when Lord Dufferin, who was in the chair, delivered an eloquent speech, in which he announced his intention to found a scholarship of the value of 20*l.*, Mr. R. B. B. Houston followed the example, and stated his intention to found one of 10*l.* The meeting was also addressed at some length by Mr. Nissey, the head-master of the School, and by the mayor, and other gentlemen.

"ARCHITECTURAL ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE SPIRES AND TOWERS OF GREAT BRITAIN."—We have been asked to state, and do so with pleasure, that the drawings, by Mr. Wickes, exhibited at the last meeting of the Institute of Architects, are about to be published, and that the work is already in progress.

IMPROVEMENT OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.—We understand that the dean and chapter have had a meeting on the subject of the proposed improvement of the carriage-way; and we believe it now rests with Mr. Cockerell to report to the chapter, when an appointment will be made to receive a deputation upon the subject.

BRECON LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Sir: A recent report on the progress of this building from Messrs. Fuljames and Walker has led us to the inference that they are the builders as well as architects. Can any of your correspondents ask me right? W. D. W.

TENDERS

For a Cattle Market, Chester. The work comprises the boundary walls and ornamental entrance gates, the wood and iron fencing of the cattle stalls and pens, the iron fencing of the sheep and pigpens, the paving and drainages, pig stytes, boiler-house, liquid manure tank, hand pipes for cleaning the markets, &c. &c. Mr. Baylis, Borough Engineer.

Cline, Shrewsbury	£1,210	0	0
Lockwood, Wrexham	1,955	0	0
Stevenson and Co., Chester	1,708	0	0
Gray and Co., Chester	1,600	0	0
W. Clifton, Chester (accepted)	1,675	0	0
F. Jones, Manchester	1,654	0	0

For reinstatement at No. 4, Coventry-street: Mr. F. H. Browne, Architect. Quantities furnished.

Hawke	£1,168	0	0
Glenn	1,087	0	0
Rogers	1,087	0	0
Stenson	1,049	0	0
F. Angus	1,046	0	0
Pink	1,044	0	0
Grimdell	983	0	0
Hilling	958	0	0
Keynolds	975	0	0

For additions to Norwood Schools for the City of London Union.

Hill and Son	£1,935	0	0
Taylor	919	0	0
Cooper	907	0	0
Harrett	908	0	0
Hutton	891	0	0
Bell	848	0	0
R. and E. Curtis	784	0	0
Mason (accepted)	763	0	0
Walker and Soper	730	0	0

Delivered at Mr. Wignall's office, for works to three shop-fronts in Holloway-road.

King and Co.	£214	0	0
Jarvis and Co.	410	0	0
Ferry	410	0	0
Baker	390	0	0
Watson	386	0	0
Bugs	379	0	0
Clarebrough	355	0	0
Haines	340	0	0
Lawrence and Son	335	0	0
Walbatten	320	0	0
East	317	0	0
Hill and Son	284	0	0

[We have given up endeavouring to reconcile these differences.]

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

To be held during the coming week.

MONDAY, April 23.—Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m.
TUESDAY, April 23.—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.; Society of Antiquaries, 2 p.m. (anniversary).
WEDNESDAY, April 24.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.; British Archaeological Association, 8 p.m.
THURSDAY, April 25.—Royal Society, 8 p.m.